

Iowa Crops & Weather



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High Temperatures and Limited Rainfall Aid Harvest

Another week of higher than normal temperatures and limited rainfall enabled Iowa's farmers nearly a full week of fieldwork activities. Additionally, the dry, hot weather helped dry down corn for grain moisture content. Corn silage harvest was wrapping up, while seed corn harvest was in full swing. Some farmers were cutting alfalfa hay for the fourth time this season. Soybean harvest has begun in most areas of the state.

There were 6.0 **days suitable for fieldwork**, up from the previous week's 5.6 days and the previous year's 5.0 days. **Topsoil moisture** rated 23 percent very short, 28 percent short, 47 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus across Iowa. **Subsoil moisture** remained virtually the same as a week ago with 27 percent rated very short, 30 percent short, 41 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

Field Crops Report: **Corn condition** improved slightly from the previous week with 3 percent rated very poor, 8 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. **Corn dent** reached 98 percent, remaining ahead of last year and the 5-year average. **Corn mature** reached 59 percent, which is about one week ahead of last year's 35 percent. **Corn harvested** reached 3 percent complete which is slightly ahead of last year, but 2 percentage points below the normal 5 percent complete. The **percent moisture of field corn** was 30 percent, down from last week's rating of 35 percent. **Harvest corn percent moisture** was at 25 percent, which is 6 percentage points lower than the previous week and last year. **Corn lodging** rated 67 percent none, 24 percent light, 6 percent moderate and 3 percent heavy. **Corn ear droppage** rated 79 percent none, 18 percent light and 3 percent moderate. Corn lodging and ear droppage was heaviest in District 90 due to dry conditions. **Soybean leaves turning color** reached 94 percent, which is 4 percentage points ahead of last year and 7 percentage points ahead of normal. **Soybeans dropping leaves**, at 70 percent complete, is ahead of a normal pace at 56 percent. **Soybeans harvested** reached 7 percent complete, which is ahead of last year and normal rated at 3 percent. **Soybeans lodging** rated 74 percent none, 20 percent light, 4 percent moderate and 2 percent heavy. **Soybeans shattering** was rated at 79 percent none, 18 percent light and 3 percent moderate. Soybean lodging and shattering was also heaviest in District 90. **Soybean condition** was rated 2 percent very poor, 6 percent poor, 21 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 21 percent excellent. The **third cutting**

of alfalfa hay reached 98 percent, which is 2 percentage points ahead of last year and the 5-year average. **Hay condition** was 8 percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 39 percent good, and 5 percent excellent.

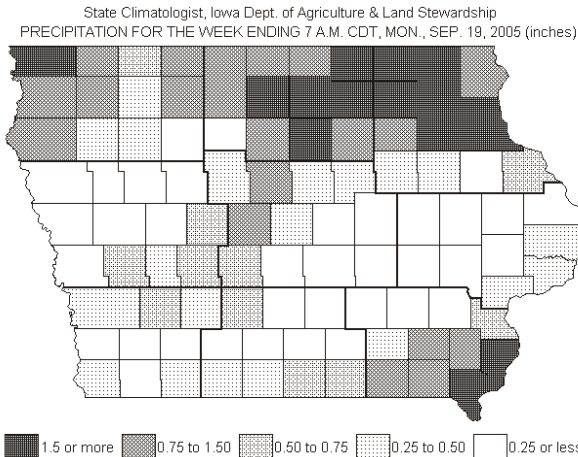
Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report: **Pasture and range condition** was rated at 17 percent very poor, 27 percent poor, 31 percent fair, 23 percent good, and 2 percent excellent. Livestock were generally reported to be in good condition, but some areas reported problems with flies, foot rot and pink-eye.

Iowa Weather Summary

The past work week began with unseasonably warm weather as high temperatures were in the 80's and low 90's on Monday (12th) while thunderstorms were scattered across the northwest one-half of the state. A cold front moved across Iowa on Tuesday (13th). Highs were only in the upper 60's northwest while the southeast still reached the upper 80's with thunderstorms scattered across the southeast two-thirds of the state. Dry weather prevailed on Wednesday with high temperatures mostly in the 70's. Light rain fell across the southeast one-third of Iowa on Thursday (15th) while highs were only in the 60's east and 70's west. Dry weather was the rule on Friday (16th) with highs in the 70's east and 80's west. On Saturday (17th) highs were mostly in the 70's while thunderstorms dampened the far northwest corner of the state. Much warmer weather returned on Sunday (18th) with highs reaching the low 90's in the far west and 80's elsewhere. Thunderstorms were scattered across the state from Sunday evening into Monday (19th) morning with rainfall amounts of an inch or more common across north central and northeast Iowa. Temperature extremes for the week ranged from highs of 92 degrees at Sioux City, Glenwood and Ankeny on Monday (12th) and again at Sioux City and Glenwood on Sunday (18th) to a morning low of 38 degrees at Decorah on Friday (16th). Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 3.5 degrees warmer than normal. Rainfall totals varied from none at scattered locations across the southern two-thirds of the state including Sioux City, Rockwell City, Oskaloosa and Cedar Rapids while Mason City Airport recorded the most with 3.83 inches. The statewide average rainfall was 0.63 inches while normal for the week is 0.80 inches. This was the fifth consecutive week of below normal rainfall and the sixth week among the past seven with above normal temperatures.

Statewide Crop Conditions as of September 18, 2005					
Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	3	8	21	47	21
Hay, all	8	17	31	39	5
Range & Pasture	17	27	31	23	2
Soybeans	2	6	21	50	21

Statewide Harvesting Conditions as of September 18, 2005				
Item	None	Light	Moderate	Heavy
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn lodging	67	24	6	3
Corn ear droppage	79	18	3	0
Soybeans lodging	74	20	4	2
Soybeans shattering	79	18	3	0



Field Work and Crop Progress as of September 18, 2005

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn mature (safe from frost)	51	37	60	49	77	67	77	58	76	59	34	35	60
Soybean leaves turning color	94	94	98	95	96	95	92	91	93	94	80	90	87
Soybeans dropping leaves	70	75	78	67	77	74	60	55	59	70	37	59	56
Soybeans harvested	8	7	6	8	15	4	4	1	3	7	NA	3	3

NA= not available

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of September 18, 2005

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
Days suitable	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	
	5.6	6.0	5.7	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.2	5.4	6.0	5.6	5.0	
Topsoil moisture	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	
	Very short	0	8	33	14	39	22	48	46	23	23	5	
Short	21	8	19	42	22	43	51	26	24	28	30	17	
Adequate	73	87	65	25	62	18	27	26	30	47	45	68	
Surplus	2	5	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	10	
Subsoil moisture	Very short	5	3	20	26	19	51	20	59	55	27	28	7
	Short	26	12	14	51	24	38	42	31	35	30	28	17
Adequate	67	81	59	23	56	11	38	10	10	41	42	68	
Surplus	2	4	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	8	

Weather Summary For Iowa Agricultural Statistics Service Prepared by AWIS, Inc. For the week ending: Sunday, September 18, 2005										
STATION	CURRENT WEEK					SINCE APRIL 1		CURRENT WEEK		
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
Estherville Sioux Center Spencer Spirit Lake	North West District									
	88	47	65	6	0.38	-0.42	16.92	-2.53	109	40
	86	44	67	5	0.70	0.00	16.93	-2.09	122	34
	92	45	68	8	0.33	-0.44	18.59	-1.73	127	51
	83	50	67	8	0.62	-0.15	21.15	1.85	122	15
Britt Humboldt Mason City Northwood	North Central District									
	89	45	66	3	0.00	-0.85	25.35	4.21	111	21
	89	48	66	5	0.01	-0.83	25.35	3.60	117	35
	89	43	66	6	0.68	-0.23	27.66	5.27	112	37
	88	46	66	6	0.78	-0.16	29.37	7.52	111	39
Decorah Dubuque Elkader Independence Waterloo	North East District									
	88	38	63	1	0.30	-0.63	21.04	-0.96	94	8
	89	45	67	6	0.01	-1.12	14.91	-8.91	121	39
	89	40	65	3	0.30	-0.55	18.97	-2.82	104	-5
	89	44	66	5	0.50	-0.41	25.51	2.19	116	13
Audubon Carroll Castana Guthrie Center Harlan Jefferson Logan Rockwell City Sioux City	West Central District									
	90	43	65	2	0.00	-0.97	19.74	-2.17	110	10
	90	46	68	6	0.09	-0.75	17.61	-5.29	126	40
	90	51	68	5	0.14	-0.70	19.19	-1.21	129	43
	90	43	67	4	0.40	-0.50	25.98	3.37	119	26
Cedar Rapids Davenport Iowa City Lowden Maquoketa Muscatine	Central District									
	88	42	67	5	0.48	-0.32	22.98	-0.78	120	35
	90	46	67	5	0.65	-0.19	22.18	-0.95	121	28
	92	48	70	6	0.21	-0.63	20.03	-1.67	141	34
	89	45	66	5	0.24	-0.53	21.65	-1.32	116	29
Eldora Marshalltown Newton Perry Toledo	East Central District									
	89	42	67	5	0.09	-0.78	19.28	-4.01	118	35
	90	46	67	4	0.19	-0.79	22.58	0.39	120	23
	90	46	67	5	1.61	0.82	23.03	1.06	120	33
	90	44	66	5	0.02	-0.85	17.65	-5.86	116	32
Clarinda Glenwood Oakland Red Oak Sidney	South West District									
	87	41	64	-1	0.00	-1.05	24.88	0.08	98	-2
	92	45	68	4	0.01	-0.90	19.83	-2.66	129	21
	90	47	67	5	0.35	-0.63	20.11	-1.92	123	32
	90	47	68	3	0.11	-0.94	17.44	-7.05	126	15
Allerton Beaconsfield Chariton Indianola Leon	South Central District									
	89	47	68	3	0.32	-0.64	19.43	-3.73	127	17
	South East District									
	90	47	66	2	0.63	-0.49	20.77	-2.64	114	49
	90	49	66	3	0.56	-0.49	24.42	1.78	115	17
Bloomfield Burlington Ottumwa	90	42	66	3	0.10	-1.12	19.17	-4.77	114	16
	91	47	68	5	0.00	-0.91	20.37	-2.05	126	29
	90	42	65	2	0.09	-0.91	17.04	-6.49	109	9
Ames Boone Des Moines Eldora Marshalltown Newton Perry Toledo	South East District									
	90	49	68	3	0.78	-0.33	18.69	-5.09	131	19
	90	52	71	6	0.71	-0.27	12.69	-9.29	145	35
	89	46	67	2	0.40	-0.65	16.18	-5.85	123	13

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit. Copyright 2005: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.